

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the opportunity for an interview. Examiner and Applicants' representatives discussed the cited references and the application at issue. Applicants submit the following amendment and response after serious consideration of the interview.

Applicants have carefully considered the positions of the Examiner, and respectfully request reconsideration of the submitted claims. Applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 17, 22 and 25, and cancelled claims 2-3, and 21. Claims 1, 4-8, 13-20 and 22-26 are presented for examination.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1, 13-20, 22, and 24-26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,505,245 to North et al. ("*North*") in view of U.S. Patent Publication 20020143996 A1 to Odrya ("*Odrya*"). Further, Claims 2-8, 21 and 23, were rejected as obvious over *North* and *Odrya* and further in view of U.S. Patent Publication 20040148385 to Srinivasan et al. ("*Srinivasan*").

Applicants have amended Claims 1, 17, 22 and 25 to further clarify Applicants' invention. Claim 1 of the present invention is directed to a remote computer management system comprising a plurality of remote computers where at least one user interface unit is coupled to a keyboard, video monitor, and cursor control device. The user interface unit contains circuits for receiving and transmitting keyboard, cursor control device, and video signals. Further, the system comprises a plurality of standalone computer interface units that are co-located with and coupled to the plurality of remote computers in a one to one relationship.

The computer interface units contain circuitry for receiving and transmitting keyboard, cursor control device, and video signals, and a signaling circuit for generating at least an audible or visual signal upon detection of a specific event transpiring at the remote computer. The signal

generated may be broadcast to the coupled computer interface unit and the remote computer coupled to the computer interface unit in a one to one relationship. The system also contains a computer management unit that bi-directionally communicates with the user interface unit and each of the computer interface units, and wherein the computer interface unit bi-directionally communicates with the user interface unit over a network.

The generation of at least an audible or visual signal at the remote computer and/or computer interface unit allows maintenance personnel with or without additional equipment to quickly and easily locate the physical location of a specific remote computer and the corresponding interface unit that are experiencing a hardware or software event. For example, in an environment containing hundreds or potentially thousands of remote computer servers such as a server farm, it is often difficult to locate physically a failed unit, and the corresponding computer interface unit. By utilizing the present invention and by providing at least a visual or audible alert at the remote computer and/or computer interface unit, administrative personnel are able to easily locate the target equipment easily and efficiently by utilizing the audible or visual signal. *See specification at page 28 lines 7-22.* That is, maintenance personnel, operators, or system administrators entering the area of a failed remote server will be able to locate the server and interface module based on the presence of the audible and/or visual signal.

As noted by the Examiner, neither *North* nor *Odryna* teach generating an audible or visual signal at the remote computer or in response to the detection of an event in the plurality of remotely monitored network devices. Further, *Srinivasan* fails to teach that an audible or visual signal is generated at the remote computer and/or the computer interface unit. *Srinivasan* at best teaches that an audible or visual alert can be sent to an “end user’s computer” in response to a hardware event. *Srinivasan* at ¶32; *see also* ¶38 “only the event monitoring module 110 shown

in Fig. 1 is provided to detect hardware and /or software events” Nowhere, however, does *Srinivasan* teach that an audible or visual signal will be generated at the remote computer and or computer interface unit in the event of a hardware and/or software event. A user relying on the teachings of *Srinivasan* would therefore not be able to locate a failed server or interface module based on the information he may receive at his remote computer. To the contrary, the user would still have to know the exact location of the failed remote server amongst the potentially thousands of remote servers in order to take the appropriate action.

For at least these reasons, it is believed clear that Claim 1 is allowable over the cited references. Independent Claims 17, 22 and 25 contain similar limitations as those recited in Claim 1. Accordingly, it is believed that Claims 17, 22, and 25 are allowable over the art of record for at least the same reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 1.

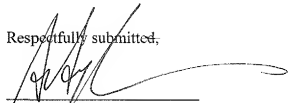
The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case maybe, of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application. A Petition for a Two Month Extension of Time accompanies this Amendment, thereby providing for the timely filing thereof. It is requested that Deposit Account No. 03-3839 be charged \$460.00 for the Extension of Time. If, however, there are any unresolved issues, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants’ representative via telephone so that such issues can be quickly resolved.

Correspondence

Please address all correspondence to the correspondent address for **Customer No. 26345** of **Intellectual Docket Administrator, Gibbons P.C.**, One Gateway Center, Newark, NJ 07102. Telephone calls should be made to Andrew M. Grodin at (973) 596-4553 and fax communications should be sent directly to him at (973) 639-8355.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew M. Grodin', is written over a horizontal line.

Andrew M. Grodin
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 50,728

Date: March 18, 2008

Gibbons P.C.
One Gateway Center
Newark, New Jersey 07102